

(3) expresses pride in our Nation's soldiers' courage, dedication to duty, and selfless service to our Nation.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 49—URGING THE RETURN OF PORTRAITS PAINTED BY DINA BABBITT DURING HER INTERNMENT AT AUSCHWITZ THAT ARE NOW IN THE POSSESSION OF THE AUSCHWITZ-BIRKENAU STATE MUSEUM.**

Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mr. SMITH of Oregon) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. CON. RES. 49

Whereas Dina Babbitt (formerly known as Dinah Gottliebova), a United States citizen now in her late 70's, has requested the return of watercolor portraits she painted while suffering a 1½-year-long internment at the Auschwitz death camp during World War II;

Whereas Dina Babbitt was ordered to paint the portraits by the infamous war criminal Dr. Josef Mengele;

Whereas Dina Babbitt's life, and her mother's life, were spared only because she painted portraits of doomed inmates of Auschwitz-Birkenau, under orders from Dr. Josef Mengele;

Whereas these paintings are currently in the possession of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum;

Whereas Dina Babbitt is unquestionably the rightful owner of the artwork, since the paintings were produced by her own talented hands as she endured the unspeakable conditions that existed at the Auschwitz death camp;

Whereas the artwork is not available for the public to view at the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum and therefore this unique and important body of work is essentially lost to history; and

Whereas this continued injustice can be righted through cooperation between agencies of the United States and Poland: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—*

(1) recognizes the moral right of Dina Babbitt to obtain the artwork she created, and recognizes her courage in the face of the evils perpetrated by the Nazi command of the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp, including the atrocities committed by Dr. Josef Mengele;

(2) urges the President to make all efforts necessary to retrieve the 7 watercolor portraits Dina Babbitt painted, while suffering a 1½-year-long internment at the Auschwitz death camp, and return them to her;

(3) urges the Secretary of State to make immediate diplomatic efforts to facilitate the transfer of the 7 original watercolors painted by Dina Babbitt from the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum to Dina Babbitt, their rightful owner;

(4) urges the Government of Poland to immediately facilitate the return to Dina Babbitt of the artwork painted by her that is now in the possession of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum; and

(5) urges the officials of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum to transfer the 7 original paintings to Dina Babbitt as expeditiously as possible.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a resolution regarding

the artwork of a woman named Dina Babbitt. Mrs. Babbitt, who was born Dinah Gottliebova, was an inmate at Auschwitz during the Holocaust. During her internment, she was forced by the notorious Dr. Joseph Mengele to paint pictures of doomed inmates. Because of her paintings, Ms. Babbitt and her mother were two of only 22 inmates who survived their internment at Auschwitz.

Seven of the paintings were found at Auschwitz after the camp was liberated and were sold to the Polish State Museum in Oswiecim. The museum contacted Mrs. Babbitt in 1973 to inform her that they had the pieces, but refused to relinquish them to her. She has been fighting with the museum since then to get her paintings back.

Mrs. Babbitt has a simple motivation for retrieving her paintings. The people in the portraits became her friends, and they perished in the gas chambers. The paintings are the only reminder she has of them and the internment camp, as she has said, "everything else was taken from me."

Mrs. Babbitt, who now resides in the United States, is in her late 70s. She has fought for too long to have these paintings returned. There is no doubt that she painted these works and has a moral right to have them in her possession. This resolution urges the President and the Secretary of State to work with the Polish government and the Auschwitz-Birkenau museum to see that the seven watercolors in question are returned to their rightful owner.

I hope that my colleagues will support his resolution.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 50—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION THAT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS MAKE TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENSURING A VIABLE FUTURE FOR OUR PLANET**

Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

S. CON. RES. 50

Whereas the city of Ann Arbor, Michigan was chosen by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (in this concurrent resolution referred to as the "ICLEI") to host the U.S. and Canadian Municipal Leaders Rio+10 Preparatory Meeting for the United Nations-sponsored 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (in this concurrent resolution referred to as the "2002 World Summit");

Whereas the ICLEI strives to build and serve a worldwide movement of local governments to achieve tangible improvements in global environmental and sustainable development conditions through cumulative local actions;

Whereas the goals of the 2002 World Summit are to generate momentum toward sustainable development and ensure a viable future for our planet;

Whereas the predecessor of the 2002 World Summit was the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, known as the Earth Summit;

Whereas local governments play a central role in the development of communities that respect ecological integrity, promote social well-being, and create economic vitality by developing and maintaining economic, social, and environmental infrastructures, overseeing local planning processes, establishing local environmental policies and regulations, and assisting in implementing national environmental policies;

Whereas the city of Ann Arbor, Michigan is a member of the ICLEI's Cities for Climate Protection, an association of over 300 local governments from around the world dedicated to developing sustainable community-based solutions to local and global environmental problems;

Whereas the city of Ann Arbor, Michigan is a designated Department of Energy Clean City in recognition of the city's efforts to purchase alternative fuel vehicles, build alternative fuel infrastructure, and educate the community about the use of alternative fuel vehicles in order to enhance energy security and environmental quality;

Whereas the city of Ann Arbor, Michigan is a member of the Environmental Protection Agency's Green Lights Program and has retrofitted over 20 city buildings with energy efficient lighting;

Whereas the city of Ann Arbor, Michigan developed an innovative Municipal Energy Fund to improve the energy efficiency of city facilities and provide community demonstrations of energy saving and renewable energy technologies that result in environmental stewardship and fiscal responsibility;

Whereas the city of Ann Arbor, Michigan has an Energy Plan that reduces energy use and encourages renewable energy, a Solid Waste Plan that encourages recycling, composting, and source reduction, and a Transportation Plan that reduces traffic congestion and vehicle miles traveled through the implementation of mass transit and alternate transportation programs;

Whereas the Environmental Management Team of the city of Ann Arbor, Michigan has a comprehensive program addressing environmental cleanup, environmental restoration, park and greenway development, energy efficiency, transportation alternatives, parks, infill development, and waste water management;

Whereas the city of Ann Arbor, Michigan was chosen from among 35 cities in North America to host the ICLEI's U.S. and Canadian Municipal Leaders Rio+10 Preparatory Meeting;

Whereas the city of Ann Arbor, Michigan is 1 of 6 cities worldwide selected to host a preparatory meeting for the 2002 World Summit; and

Whereas the University of Michigan and the residents of the city of Ann Arbor, Michigan are committed to communitywide initiatives to support sustainable development: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress recognizes the city of Ann Arbor, Michigan and its residents for their dedication to building a community that respects ecological integrity, promotes social well-being, and creates economic vitality.*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I and my colleague from Michigan, Senator STABENOW, are submitting a resolution recognizing the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan and its residents for their